

As Passed by the Senate

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S. B. No. 166

Senator Hughes

**Cosponsors: Senators Goodman, Turner, Fedor, Schaffer, Patton, Harris,
Kearney, Miller, D., Morano, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Widener**

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A B I L L

To enact section 4511.454 of the Revised Code to 1
allow emergency personnel in public safety 2
vehicles to report traffic law violations under 3
certain circumstances. 4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4511.454 of the Revised Code be 5
enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 4511.454. (A) When the failure of a motor vehicle 7
operator to yield the right-of-way to a public safety vehicle as 8
required by division (A) of section 4511.45 of the Revised Code 9
impedes the ability of the public safety vehicle to respond to an 10
emergency, any emergency personnel in the public safety vehicle 11
may report the license plate number and a general description of 12
the vehicle and of the operator of the vehicle to the law 13
enforcement agency exercising jurisdiction over the area where the 14
alleged violation occurred. Any such emergency personnel also may 15
report any other apparent violation of the traffic laws of this 16
state occurring at the same time. 17

(B) Upon receipt of a report under this section, the law 18

enforcement agency shall conduct an investigation to attempt to 19
determine or confirm the identity of the operator of the vehicle 20
at the time of the alleged violation. If the identity of the 21
operator at the time of the alleged violation is established, the 22
reporting of the license plate number of the vehicle shall 23
establish probable cause for the law enforcement agency to issue a 24
citation for the violation of division (A) of section 4511.45 of 25
the Revised Code. In the case of other reported apparent traffic 26
law violations or if the identity of the operator of the vehicle 27
at the time of the alleged violation cannot be established, the 28
law enforcement agency shall issue a warning to the person who 29
owned the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation, except in 30
the case of a leased or rented vehicle, the warning shall be 31
issued to the person who leased or rented the vehicle at the time 32
of the alleged violation. 33

(C) As used in this section: 34

(1) "License plate" includes any temporary license placard 35
issued under section 4503.182 of the Revised Code or similar law 36
of another jurisdiction. 37

(2) "Public safety vehicle" does not include a vehicle used 38
by the motor carrier enforcement unit for the enforcement of 39
orders and rules of the public utilities commission. 40